



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## REGION 4

Science and Ecosystem Support Division  
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June 5, 2003

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Coosa River PCB TMDL

FROM: Bill Cosgrove, Chief  
Ecological Evaluation Section  
Ecological Assessment Branch  
Science & Ecosystem Support Division *William R. Bokey for*

THRU William R. Bokey, Chief  
Ecological Assessment Branch *William R. Bokey*  
Science & Ecosystem Support Division

TO: William Melville, Chief  
TMDL Modeling and Support Section  
Standards, Monitoring & TMDL Branch  
Water Management Division

This memo is in response to your request for SEDS's view on the potential existence of a "continuing source" of PCBs. The results of the fish tissue analyses from the Coosa River TMDL study were compared to the historical tissue concentrations for fish at both trophic levels previously collected by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA-EPD). Because there does not appear to be a declining trend in the tissue PCB concentrations, SEDS scientists believe that the existence of a continuing source for PCBs may be present on the Coosa River. Possible sources would include groundwater inputs to the river from a contaminant source, or surface runoff that enters the river through tributaries. Additional data collection would be necessary to confirm the presence of either source. I may be contacted at (706) 355-8616 if you have additional questions.

cc: James Kutzman (Waste Division)  
Carol Monel (Waste Division)  
Peyton/Antley (SESD)

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